

ABANDON, ABANDONED, ABANDONING

The Reubenites, Gadites, and half-tribe of Manasseh didn't **abandon** the rest of the tribes of Israel when they invaded Canaan. They remained with them and fought with them to conquer the promised land.

- **Joshua 22:3:** "Ye have not left your brethren these many days unto this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God."

Once the Israelites finished chasing the Philistines after David killed Goliath, they returned to the **abandoned** Philistine camp and looted it.

- **1 Samuel 17:53:** "And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents."

When David asked the Egyptian that his men found in a field (when they were looking for the Amalekites who raided Ziklag) who he belonged to, he said that his master **abandoned** him three days earlier when he became sick.

- **1 Samuel 30:13:** "And David said unto him, To whom longest thou? and whence art thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick."

In the battle between the servants of David and the servants of Ishbosheth, Joab was victorious (and yet he **abandoned** the battle and allowed Abner to escape).

- **2 Samuel 2:28-29, 31:** "So Joab blew a trumpet, and all the people stood still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more. And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain, and passed over Jordan, and went through all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim... But the servants of David had smitten of Benjamin, and of Abner's men, so that three hundred and threescore men died."

When the lepers saw that the Syrian army was gone, they began looting the **abandoned** tents and hiding the treasure that they found.

- **2 Kings 7:7-8:** "Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their life. And when these lepers came to the uttermost part of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it."

None of the Jews **abandoned** their assigned work of repairing the wall around Jerusalem. Instead they continued, in spite of the threats that had been made against them.

- **Nehemiah 4:15:** "And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work."

Nehemiah didn't **abandon** the project to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem, in spite of the opposition he faced, and in

spite of the threats against him.

- **Nehemiah 6:11:** "And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in."

Nehemiah didn't give in to fear. He didn't **abandon** the reconstruction of the wall around Jerusalem, but continued until it was finished.

- **Nehemiah 6:15:** "So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days."

Job said that since his friends had **abandoned** him in his hour of need, they were going the wrong direction and would perish.

- **Job 6:18:** "The paths of their way are turned aside; they go to nothing, and perish."

When Job had problems, everyone **abandoned** him, including his family and his close friends.

- **Job 19:14:** "My kinsfolk have failed, and my familiar friends have forgotten me."

If we're persecuted, we must not **abandon** the statutes of God.

- **Psalms 119:23:** "Princes also did sit and speak against me: but thy servant did meditate in thy statutes."

It's bad to become involved with immoral women who have

forsaken God and **abandoned** His ways.

- **Proverbs 2:17:** "Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God."

It's a terrible thing to be wise in your own eyes. We must learn to **abandon** our own wisdom and way of thinking, and listen to what God has to say.

- **Proverbs 26:12:** "Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him."

There are some fools who can't be corrected. They'll never **abandon** their folly, even if physical discipline is used.

- **Proverbs 27:22:** "Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him."

God doesn't require us to feed fools. Instead they should go hungry so they'll learn to **abandon** their foolishness and become wise.

- **Proverbs 30:21-22:** "For three things the earth is disquieted, and for four which it cannot bear: For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with meat;"

One day the fortresses and palaces of Idumea would be **abandoned**.

- **Isaiah 34:6, 13:** "The sword of the Lord is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of

lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the Lord hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea... And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof: and it shall be an habitation of dragons, and a court for owls."

When God spoke against the Philistines, He said that when the invading army attacked the land, the fathers wouldn't look back to their children. In other words, they would run in fear and **abandon** their own children.

- **Jeremiah 47:1-3:** "The word of the Lord that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before that Pharaoh smote Gaza. Thus saith the Lord; Behold, waters rise up out of the north, and shall be an overflowing flood, and shall overflow the land, and all that is therein; the city, and them that dwell therein: then the men shall cry, and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl. At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his strong horses, at the rushing of his chariots, and at the rumbling of his wheels, the fathers shall not look back to their children for feebleness of hands;"

The nations that Jerusalem depended on to save her didn't save her. The Jews put their faith in other nations instead of in God, but in the end those other nations **abandoned** her and didn't help her.

- **Lamentations 1:2:** "She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies."

If Ezekiel didn't warn the righteous who **abandoned** their righteousness and committed iniquity, they would die in their sins. However, God would hold him responsible for their blood.

- **Ezekiel 3:20:** "Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling-block before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand."

God still cares about the Jews and He still has a plan for them. God hasn't forsaken them, or rejected them, or **abandoned** them.

- **Daniel 9:24:** "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy."

God hasn't **abandoned** Israel. He has a plan to save them.

- **Hosea 6:1:** "Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up."

There are times when God judges idolatry by causing pagan altars to become **abandoned** and destroyed by nature.

- **Hosea 10:8:** "The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us."

God said that the Jews had nothing against Him. He had done nothing wrong, and yet they **abandoned** Him to serve idols anyway.

- **Micah 6:3:** "O my people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against me."

God hasn't abandoned His people forever. He hasn't utterly rejected them or cast them off.

- **Micah 7:18:** "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy."

Just because a person hears the gospel and receives it with joy doesn't mean he is actually saved. That same person may quickly **abandon** the faith.

- **Matthew 13:20-21:** "But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended."

The shepherds were willing to **abandon** their flocks, which

they had been watching over, to see the thing the angels had proclaimed (which was the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ).

- **Luke 2:15:** "And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

It's not enough to start being a disciple of Jesus. We must run the race and finish it, and not **abandon** Him. It's a terrible thing to abandon Jesus once hardships set in.

- **Luke 14:29:** "Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,"

When Jesus returns to this world at the end of the seven-year tribulation, those who are in the world in those days must **abandon** their possessions and immediately go to Him. They must not be like Lot's wife, who turned back and was turned into a pillar of salt.

- **Luke 17:30-33:** "Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away; and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. Remember Lot's wife. Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it."

Jesus said the hour was coming when His disciples would **abandon** Him and leave Him alone.

- **John 16:32:** "Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me."

We must not **abandon** the faith in times of persecution and suffering. Instead we must endure and continue in the faith.

- **Acts 14:22:** "Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

When the centurion commanded people to **abandon** that the ship that was transporting Paul and the other prisoners, it had already started to break up. There were broken pieces of it around.

- **Acts 27:44:** "And the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land."

The saints are those who continue to do well. They don't abandon the path, but continue to be faithful to God unto the end.

- **Romans 2:7:** "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:"

The gospel will save us if we remain in it, and don't **abandon** it for a different gospel.

- **1 Corinthians 15:2:** "By which also ye are saved, if ye keep

in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain."

Even though Paul was writing to rebuke the Galatian churches, and even though they had **abandoned** the faith, he still wanted them to have both grace and peace. He wanted them to be saved and return to the faith.

- **Galatians 1:3:** "Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,"

The Galatians had been called to the gospel, but they had **abandoned** it and gone elsewhere.

- **Galatians 1:6:** "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:"

Those who seek salvation by works don't have faith. They've **abandoned** faith for something else.

- **Galatians 3:12:** "And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them."

Abandoning grace and seeking the law is a bad thing. It's moving from something that's good to something that's much worse.

- **Galatians 4:9:** "But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?"

Paul was very concerned about the Galatians, because they had **abandoned** God's grace and sought to be saved by keeping the law.

- **Galatians 4:11:** "I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain."

Paul wanted to know who had taught the Galatian church to **abandon** the truth.

- **Galatians 5:7:** "Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?"

God hasn't **abandoned** us to try to live a Christian life as best we can, on our own. Instead He's actively working within us.

- **Philippians 2:13:** "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

Those who don't continue in the faith, and choose to **abandon** the gospel, aren't saved. Their previous confession won't save them.

- **Colossians 1:21-23:** "And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;"

When a church experiences persecution and suffering, it's not a sign that God has **abandoned** the church or doesn't care about it. Instead it's something the church must endure with patience, while holding on to its faith.

- **2 Thessalonians 1:4:** "So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:"

Those who have **abandoned** the faith and a good conscience have turned their life into a shipwreck.

- **1 Timothy 1:19:** "Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:"

Those who **abandon** doctrine are abandoning salvation itself. We must continue in the doctrines of the Scriptures, and never abandon them.

- **1 Timothy 4:16:** "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

Paul didn't hide the fact that some people had **abandoned** him when he was persecuted and put in prison. Instead he called them out *by name*.

- **2 Timothy 1:15:** "This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes."

When everyone in Asia **abandoned** Paul, God raised up an unbeliever to take care of him.

- **2 Timothy 1:16:** "The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:"

At the end of Paul's life, Demas **abandoned** him.

- **2 Timothy 4:10:** "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia."

Even though Paul rejected Mark at the beginning of his ministry (because Mark **abandoned** Paul), at the end of Paul's life things had changed. Paul came to believe that Mark was profitable for the ministry.

- **2 Timothy 4:11:** "Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry."

Paul prayed that God would forgive those who fled from him when he was attacked. This indicates that **abandoning** Paul was a sin that needed forgiveness. It's not good to abandon our friends when they're persecuted and need our help.

- **2 Timothy 4:16:** "At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge."

God will be there with us even when everyone else has **abandoned** us.

- **2 Timothy 4:16-17:** "At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge. Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion."

Sound doctrine is one of the key weapons of the church. It must never be **abandoned** or compromised.

- **Titus 1:9:** "Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

We must hold on to our profession of faith in Christ. We must not **abandon** it, or let go of it, or fall away from it.

- **Hebrews 4:14:** "Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession."

We must not draw back from God or abandon our confidence in Him. God has no pleasure in those who draw back and **abandon** their faith in Him.

- **Hebrews 10:38:** "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him."

During the second half of the tribulation, there will be enormous temptation for people to **abandon** their faith and

take the mark of the beast.

- **Revelation 16:15:** "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."